



*Join us for the*

**2017 Meeting of the NC Chapter of the  
American Fisheries Society  
New Bern, NC**

**February 14-16, 2017**

*at*

**New Bern Riverfront Convention Center**

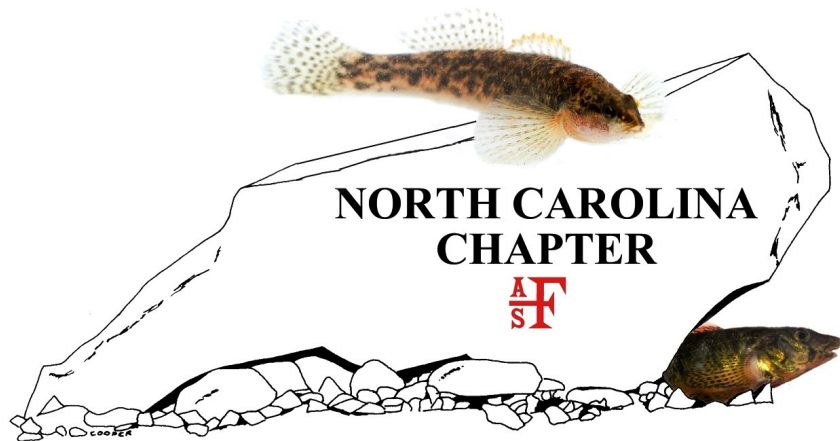


## *Call for Papers*

**Complete the attached abstract submission form. Attach the abstract submission form to an email with the subject line “NCAFS Meeting 2017 Abstract”. Email the form to program committee chair Corey Oakley at [corey.oakley@ncwildlife.org](mailto:corey.oakley@ncwildlife.org). Abstract deadline is January 15, 2017. Authors will be notified of abstract receipt and acceptance by January 31, 2017.**

## *Events*

**Feb. 14: Oyster Roast & Social**  
**Feb. 15: Mussel Identification Workshop**  
**Feb. 15: Dinner & Raffle**  
**Feb. 15—16: Presentations/Business Meeting**



**Hotel accommodations provided by [Bridge Pointe Hotel & Marina](#)**

# **2017 NCAFS Workshop Announcement**

## **Freshwater Mussels 101: An Introduction to Freshwater Mussel Biology and Identification**

**Instructors: Tim Savidge (Three Oaks Engineering), Tyler Black (NCWRC) , and Rachel Hoch (NCWRC)**

**Course Capacity: 40**

North America has the highest diversity of freshwater mussels in the world with approximately 300 native species in the United States, over 60 of which occur in North Carolina. Unfortunately, roughly two-thirds of freshwater mussels in North Carolina are considered imperiled making them and their habitats conservation priorities. Additionally, mussels are a vital component of ecosystems serving as bio-indicators, natural filters, food resources, and ecosystem engineers. However, positive identification of freshwater mussels can be problematic due to plasticity in morphological characters. Proper identification and understanding of the life history requirements of freshwater mussels are essential for the conservation of this imperiled faunal group. Thus, the goals of this workshop are to introduce participants to freshwater mussel biology and teach the skills needed to identify species in North Carolina. We will start with a lecture format to discuss life history, ecology, taxonomy, and morphology of North Carolina freshwater mussels. Then, **we will provide participants with the opportunity to identify specimens during a hands-on session.**